

Safety On The Road

Tips For Tricky Turns

Turns can be tricky. On-coming traffic, cross-traffic, pedestrians, traffic signals and signs can cause complications and confusion.

A successful turn is one where you get where you want to go without coming into conflict with another vehicle, pedestrian or roadside object.

Follow these tips for making a right turn:

- Put on your right turn signal.
- Position your vehicle in the right lane, behind the crosswalk or traffic sign.
- Allow room for the right rear wheel to complete the turn without hitting the curb, signs or other obstacle. Remember this wheel has a smaller turning radius than the right front wheel. In the case of a large vehicle such as a truck or a towed vehicle, the difference in radius is significant.
- Check for traffic including other motor vehicles, motorcycles,

bicycles and pedestrians entering the intersection. Look out for pedestrians in front of you and beside you. Bikes, motorcycles and even small cars have been known to attempt passing in the small space on the right.

- In areas where a right turn is permitted on a red light, you must come to a complete stop and yield the right of way to pedestrians. Check for signs prohibiting a right turn. Watch for traffic coming from the left.

Here's how to make a left turn:

- Switch on your left turn signal while you position your vehicle in the lane next to the center line on a two-way street, or in the lane next to the left curb on a one-way street.
- Stay behind the crosswalk or the stop or yield sign.
- Yield to vehicles and pedestrians in your path.

- Follow pavement markings and traffic controls telling you where and when to turn.

- In intersections with special turn lanes, enter this lane as soon as you can so you do not have to cut across other traffic to reach it.

Here are hints for making other turns:

- U-turns are prohibited in many areas. Where such a turn is allowed, do it like this: Get close to the curb before beginning your turn. Signal your intention. Drive slowly while turning your steering wheel rapidly. Check for traffic in all directions before attempting a U-turn and at all stages of the maneuver.

No matter what type of turn you are making, move slowly and watch where you are going. Be alert to traffic and pedestrians in all directions.

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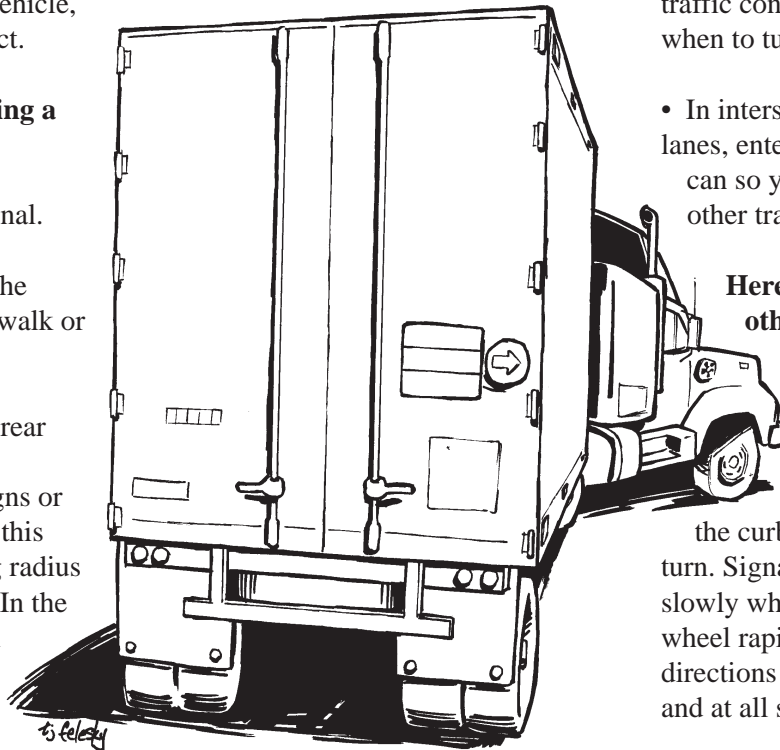
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